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ABSTRACT

This report is a statistical analysis of the socioeconomic status of native Hawaiians in Hawaii. Data presented for native Hawaiians are compared to data for the overall state population. A section on population contains information on geographic distribution, age group distribution, ethnic distribution, residency status, and population growth. An analysis of the household and family shows data on marital status, family size, household size and number of dependents, and monthly housing costs. Data on employment include employment status, and occupation and industry affiliation for both adults and youth between the ages of 19 and 25. Levels of educational attainment and levels of annual personal income are also shown. The report concludes with a brief history of the activities of Alu Like, an organization which is involved in socioeconomic development for native Hawaiians. (APM)

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Unless otherwise noted, data for this booklet are extracted from the **1975 OEO Census Update Survey** data files. A more detailed report, **Native Hawaiian Profile,** is available at the ALU LIKE Central Office.

We gratefully acknowledge the kokua of the following persons.

Karen Ah Mai, University of Hawaii
Robert Schmitt, Hawaii State Statistician
Gary Totoki, Signature, Inc.
Peter Wolf, Assistant Publisher, Community Publications, Inc.

INTRODUCTION

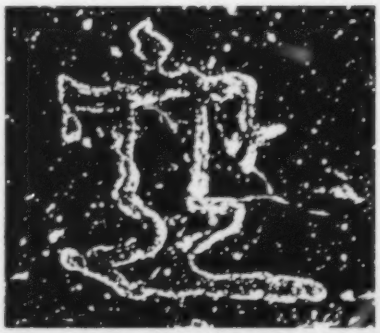
For over a thousand years, a unique culture developed and flourished in the vastness of the Pacific, isolated during the long millenium from the rest of the known world until the late 18th century. The long voyages that had brought these skilled Polynesian mariners and explorers to the beautiful islands of Hawaii were already dim memories in the oral traditions of a complex, highly stratified society that the European explorer, Captain James Cook found while on his search for a more profitable route to the Orient.

When Cook and his men sailed into Hawaiian waters they found a tall, brown skinned, handsome and intelligent people living a way of life that seemed to be at one with the surrounding environment.

There were approximately 400,000 Native Hawaiians scattered throughout the islands at the time of Cook's visit. Two hundred years of dramatic changes including almost a century of non Native Hawaiian rule has wrought its tragic toll. Today, there are about 150,000 people of full or part Hawaiian ancestry who prefer to be called Native Hawaiians. We are descendants of generations who bravely survived the incredible changes from separate island chiefdoms, a united kingdom, a constitutional monarchy, a provisional government, a republic, annexation and territorial status to the present state in a federal republic.

The years have not been kind to the first people of the islands of Hawaii. We lead, unfortunately, in the debit side of the statistical indices. A tragic loss of identity occurred, rendering a host of social problems that are now being addressed with a renewed and vigorous spirit of pride that is coupled with a continued search for cultural meaning and heritage.

Like our ancestors who sailed the Pacific with great skill and daring long before the Phoenicians kept in sight of their coastal shores, we are in the midst of reaffirming our special place in the Pacific sun. We believe that once our children know who their *kupuna* or ancestors were, they will know who they are and will be able to look to their futures with superb confidence. There is today, an unprecedented revival of the use of our native language (once banned from our schools), music, arts and crafts, dance, sports and most important, cultural values. All of these aspects strengthen our ability to live and learn in a bi-cultural world. Learning our ways well enables us to grasp the ways of others in a more meaningful way.



E alu like mai kākou,
E nā o'lwi ō Hawai'i

There is one value that has persisted down through these past two hundred years that is a distinguishing mark of the Native Hawaiian people. It is the concept of aloha. It welcomed Captain Cook. It has welcomed thousands of visitors who remained to make these islands their home too, from the ethnic immigrants of the East and West who labored on the sugar and pineapple plantations to the many who remained after the wars. The Native Hawaiians have always shared their small and precious islands in this special spirit of welcome and genuine affection. Few places in the American democratic experience can equal this phenomenal social development at the cost of Native Hawaiian self-effacement.

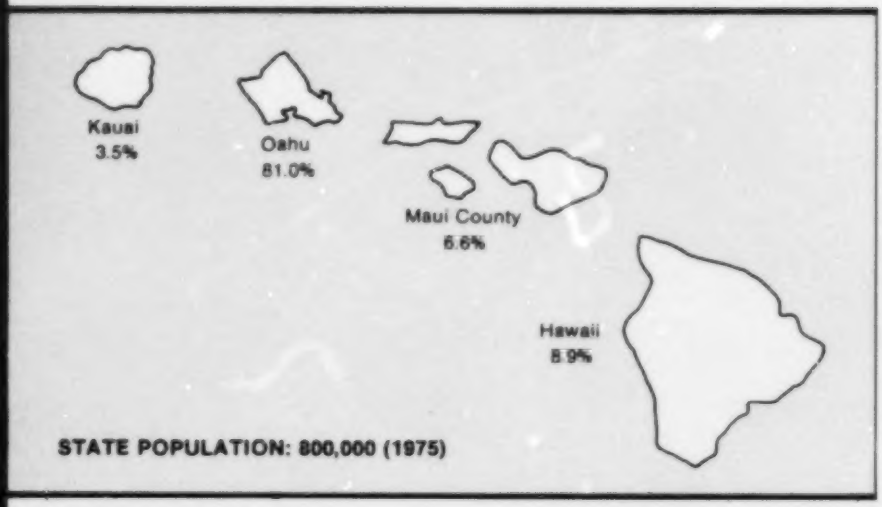
Today, there is a realization that aloha must be taught. It must never be taken for granted or treated superficially and the Native Hawaiian is presently insuring that this special gift that is a reflection of his special heritage is no longer abused.

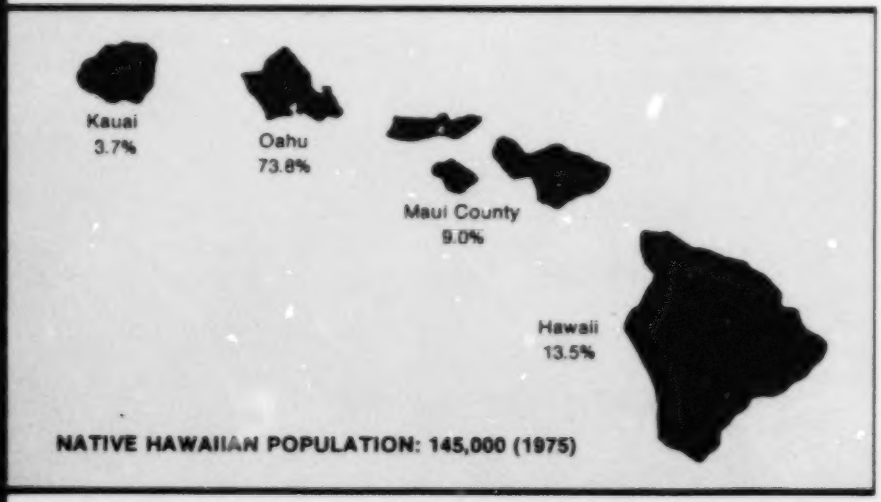
For aloha is more than welcome. It embodies a special regard for the land and the sea. Its limitations and its rich resources need careful nurturing.

That is why our *kupuna* constantly reminded us to *malama* our *aina*, to take care of our lands and resources. And that is why he rejoiced in the *oli* or chants and in the *mele* or songs. From the classical tradition of the goddesses *Pele* and *Hiiaka* to the strong spiritual hymns, *aloha aina, aina aloha*, love for our land, is repeatedly sung with deep appreciation. We are taught to love our islands and recognize them as the gifts of the gods. It is the special heritage of a people who were once, long ago, at home on both the land and the sea.

Gard Kealoha, Information Officer

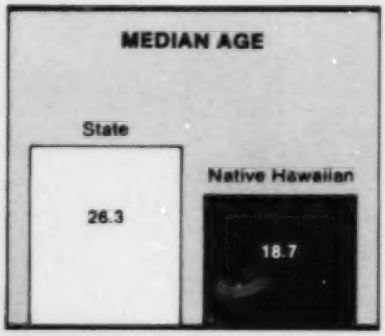
POPULATION





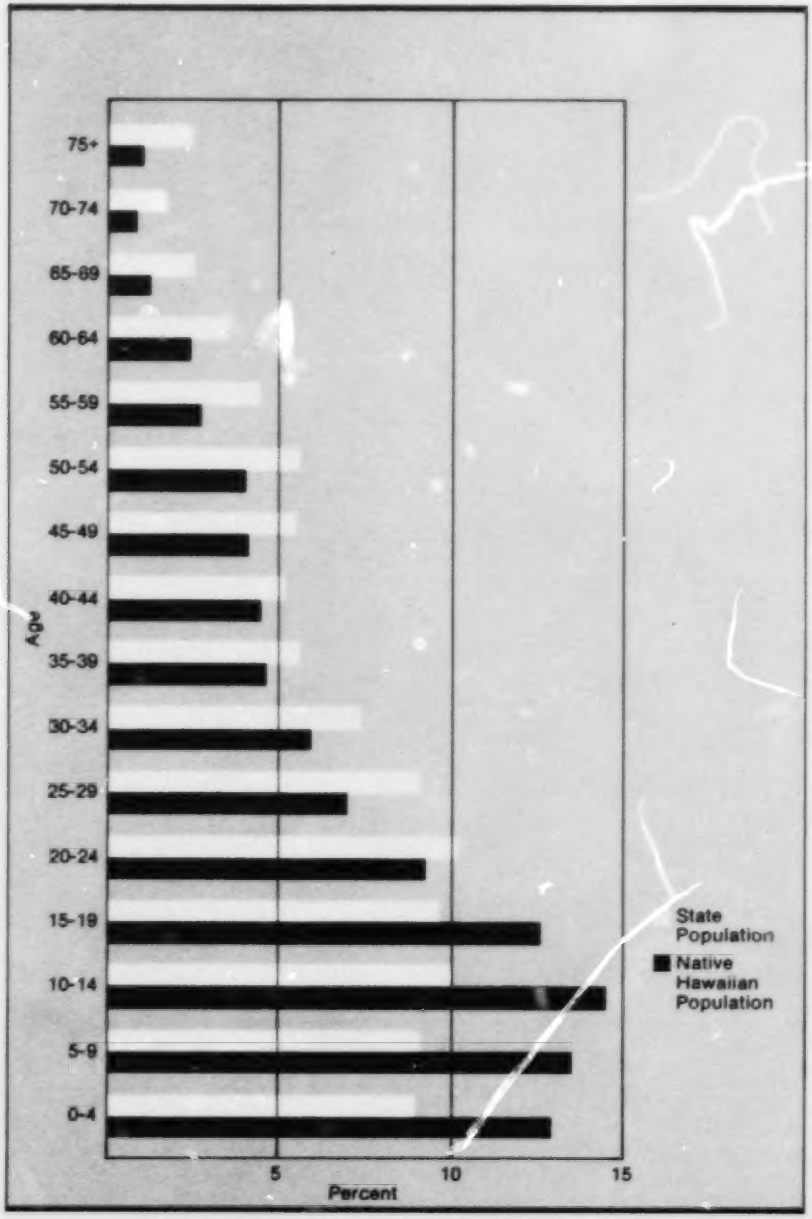
GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The total population of the State of Hawaii in 1975 was about 800,000; of this, 145,000 or 16.7% were Native Hawaiians. Of the total State population, 81.0% reside on Oahu; 8.9% on Hawaii; 6.6% on Maui; and 3.5% on Kauai. Of the Native Hawaiian population, 73.8% reside on Oahu; 13.5% on Hawaii; 9.0% on Maui; and 3.7% on Kauai.

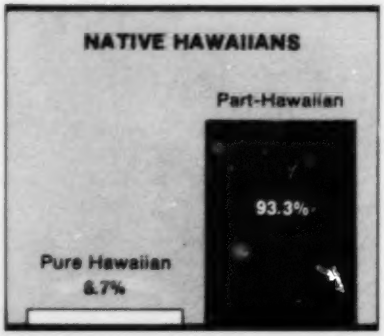


AGE GROUP DISTRIBUTION

The Native Hawaiians as a group are significantly younger compared to the State population. More than 50% of the Native Hawaiians are below the age of 20.



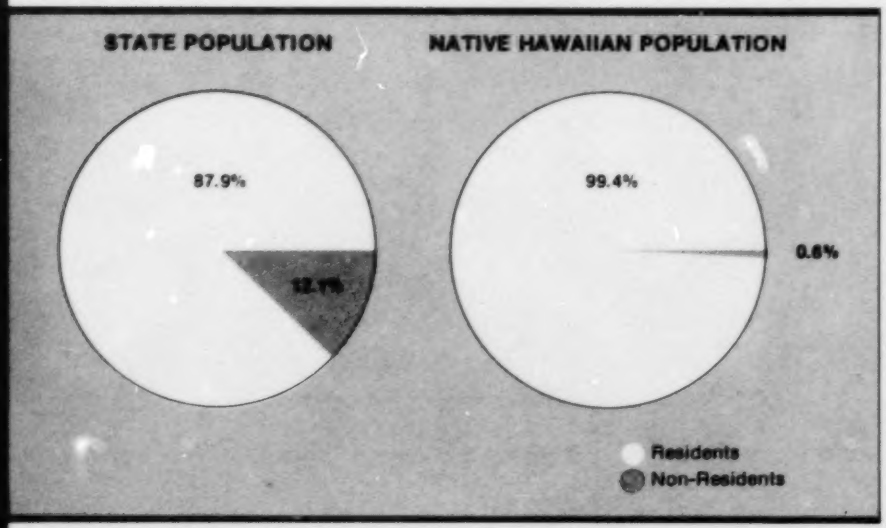
ETHNIC BACKGROUND	PERCENT
Caucasian (not Portuguese)	25.8%
Japanese	25.2
Native Hawaiians	16.7
Filipino	10.9
Mixed	8.1
Chinese	4.8
Portuguese	3.4
Other	1.4
Korean	1.2
Black	1.1
Samoan	0.8
Puerto Rican	0.6



ETHNIC BREAKDOWN

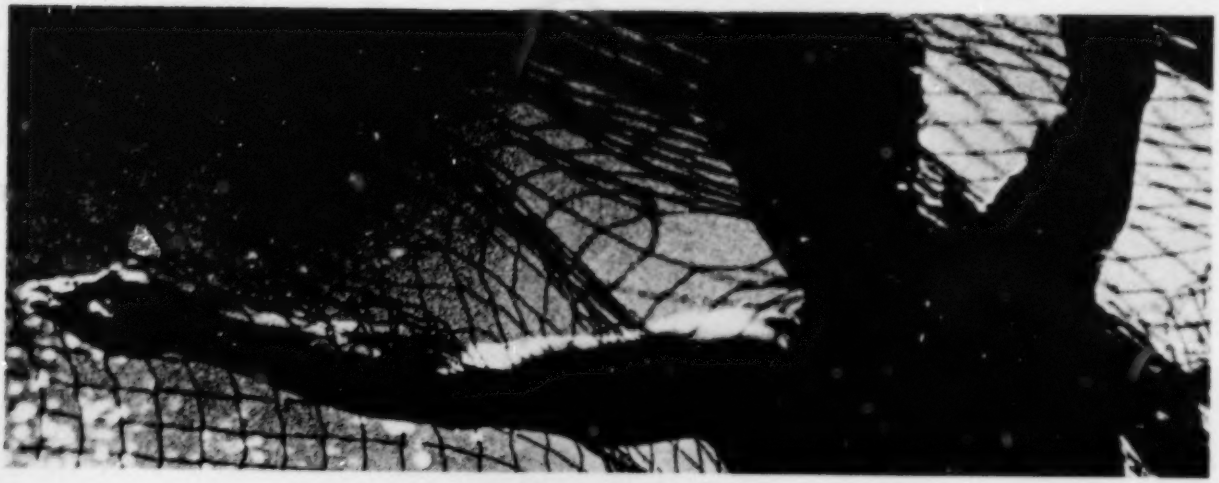
The Native Hawaiian (Hawaiians and Part-Hawaiians combined) population makes up 16.7% of the total population. They are the third largest ethnic group in Hawaii, following the Caucasians and the Japanese.

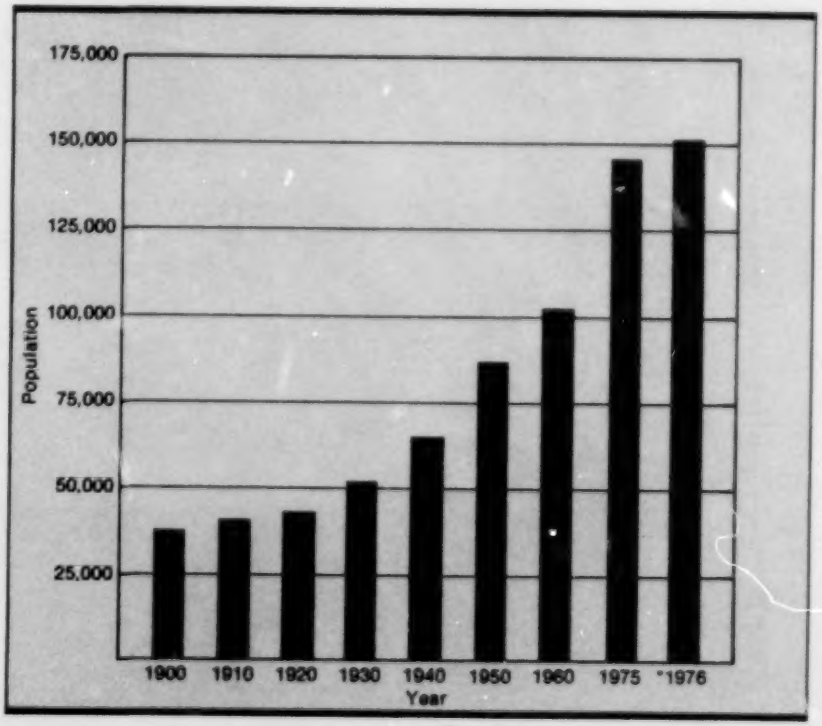
Of the Native Hawaiian population; 93.3% are Part-Hawaiians and 6.7% are Hawaiians.



RESIDENCY STATUS

Almost all Native Hawaiians are residents of the State. The very small number of non-residents are probably in the military.

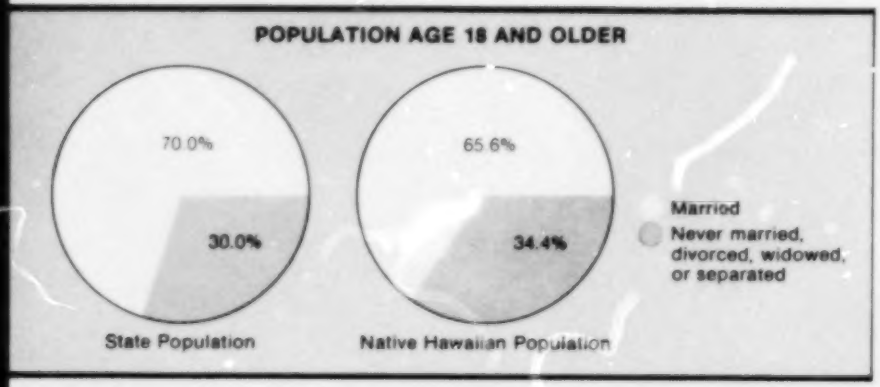




NATIVE HAWAIIAN POPULATION GROWTH (1900-1976)

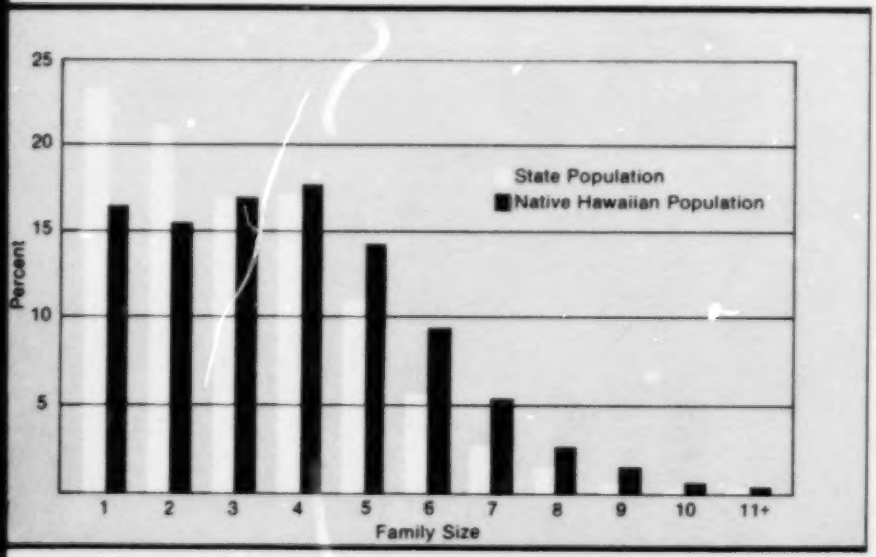
*The 1976 figure is from Robert Schmitt and Paul Kawaguchi, "Population Characteristics of Hawaii, 1976," **Population Report,** Issue No. 9, Research & Statistics Office, Hawaii Department of Health, October 1977. (From a survey sponsored by the Lieutenant-Governor's Office for election purposes.)

HOUSEHOLD AND FAMILY



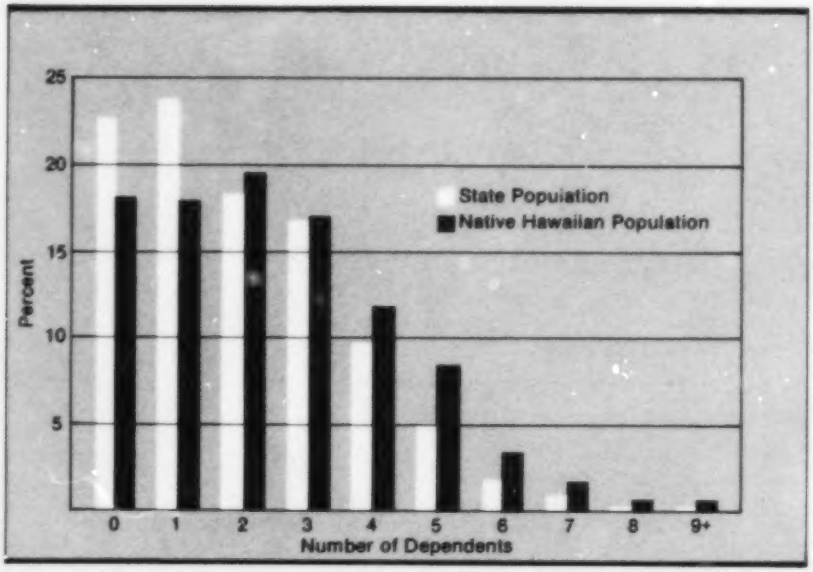
MARITAL STATUS

Slightly higher percentages of adult Native Hawaiians are never married, divorced, widowed, or separated.



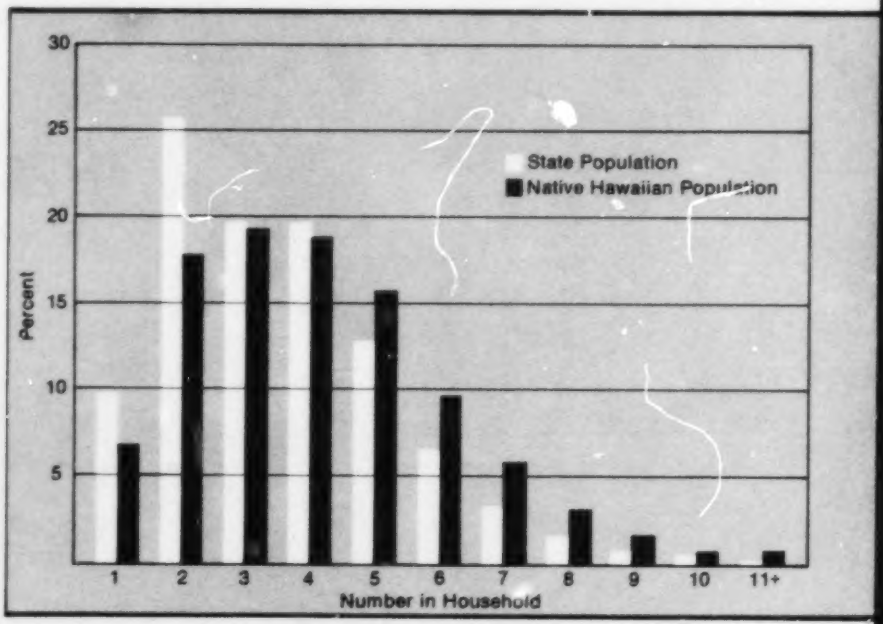
FAMILY SIZE

Native Hawaiians have larger families than the overall State population. For the State, more than half of the families have three or less members. For Native Hawaiians, more than half of the families have four or more members.



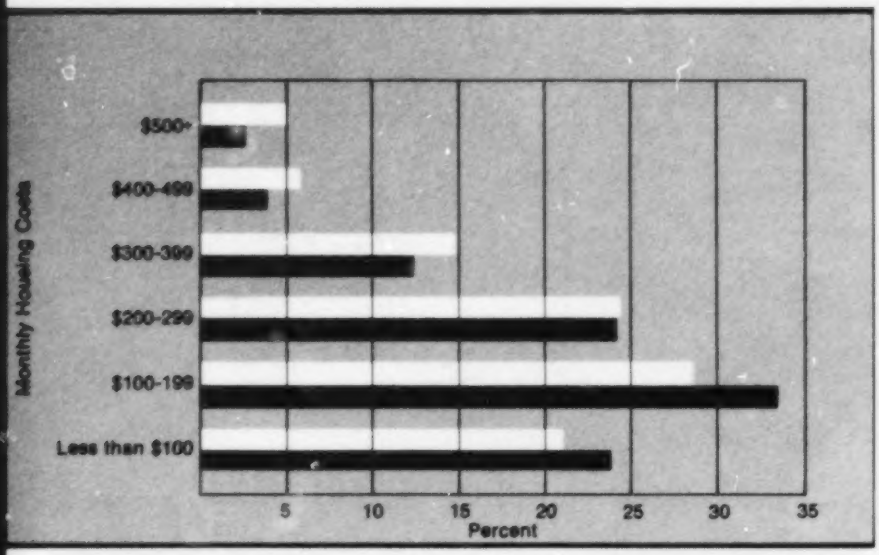
NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS

Native Hawaiians show much higher percentages than the State population for having more than three dependents in a household.



NUMBER IN HOUSEHOLD

Native Hawaiians have larger household size than the State average; they have a substantially larger proportion of households of five or more members.



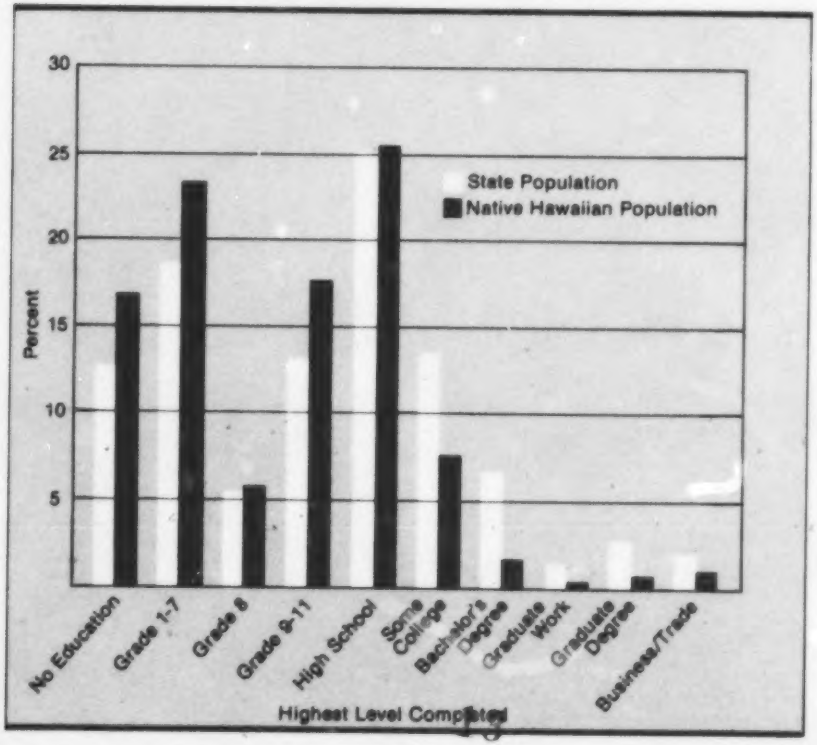
MONTHLY HOUSING COSTS

Compared to the State population, more Native Hawaiians pay less for monthly housing costs (rent or mortgage payments). Among Native Hawaiians 33.4% paid between $100 and $199. About 82% paid less than $300 per month.

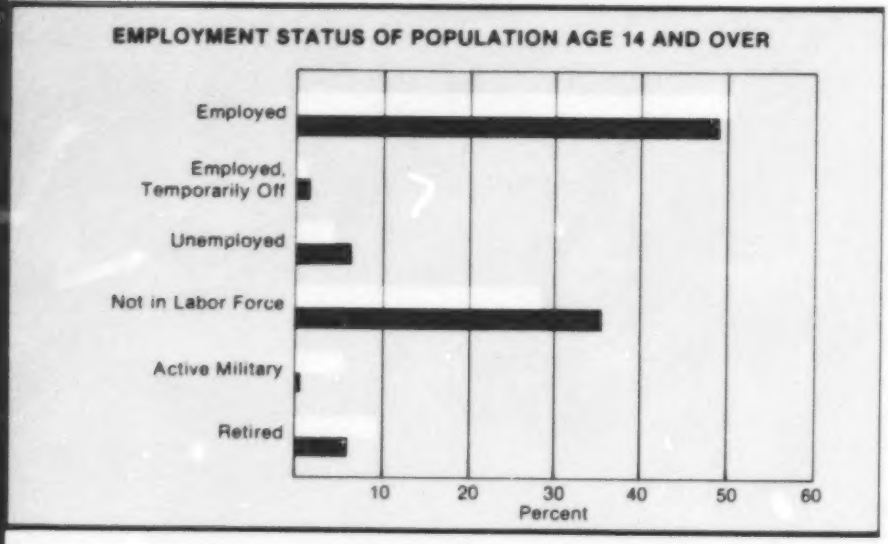
EDUCATION

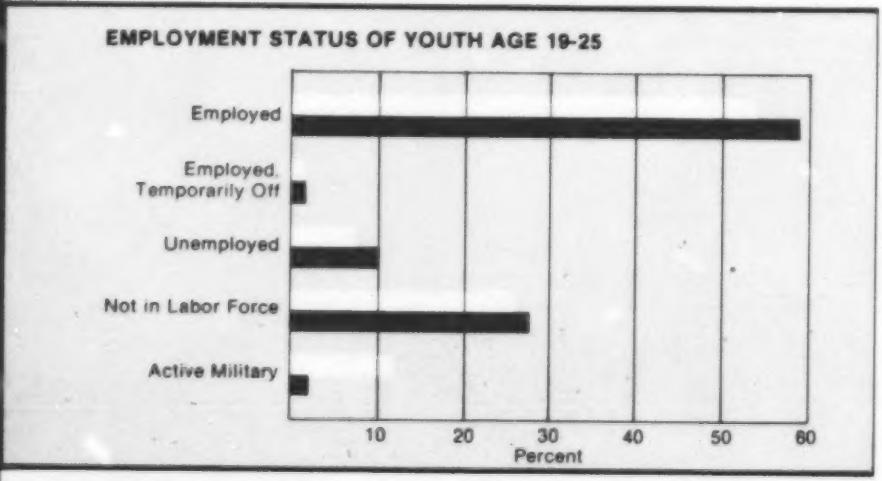
EDUCATION

Native Hawaiians have a lower level of formal education than the overall State population. While percentages of high school graduates are about equal, Native Hawaiians show lower percentages above high school.



EMPLOYMENT



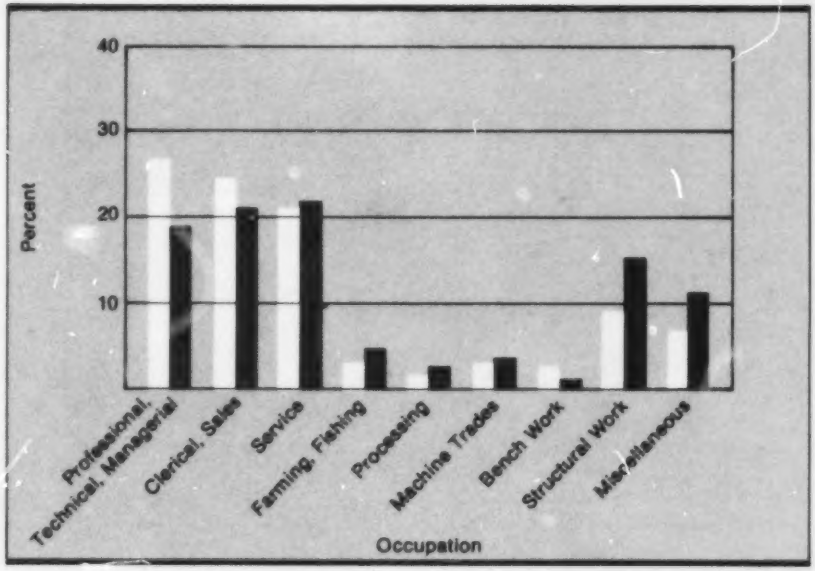


EMPLOYMENT STATUS

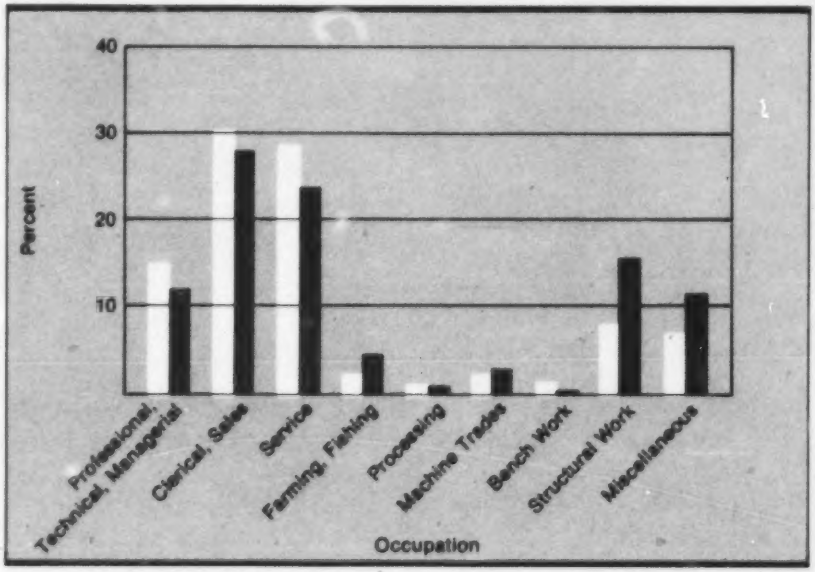
Compared to the total population, Native Hawaiians show higher percentage of persons unemployed as well as persons not in the labor force. A similar, but greater, difference exists in the youth population.

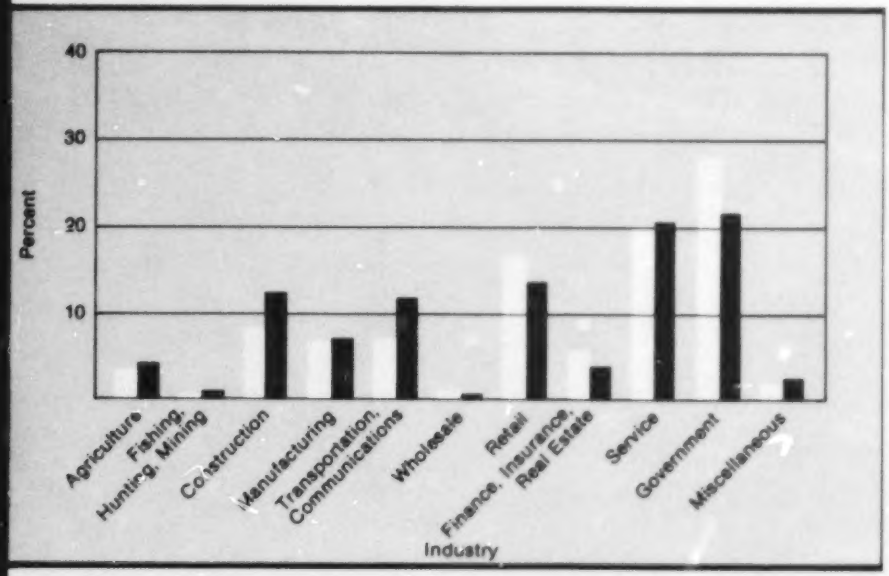
OCCUPATION OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS

Comparison with the State population shows that Native Hawaiians have higher percentages of people in structural and miscellaneous occupations and lower percentage in professional, technical, and administrative positions. A similar pattern is shown in youth population.



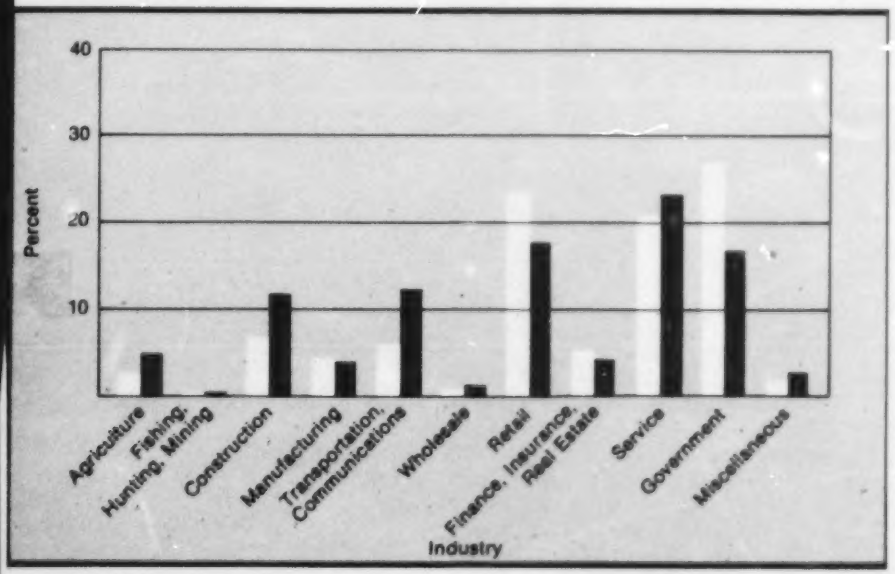
OCCUPATION OF YOUTH AGE 19-25





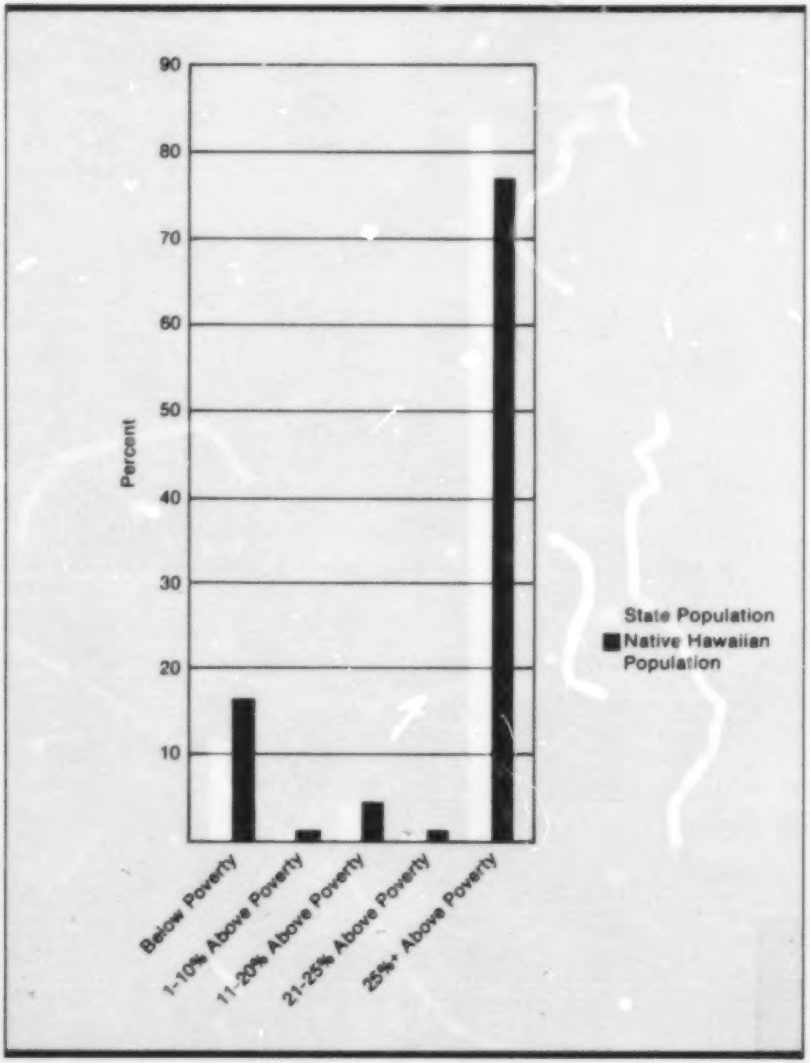
INDUSTRY
OF PERSONS EMPLOYED
IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS

Compared to the State population, the Native Hawaiians show higher percentages in Construction and Transportation/Communications categories, and lower percentages in Government and Retail categories. A similar pattern is shown in the youth population.



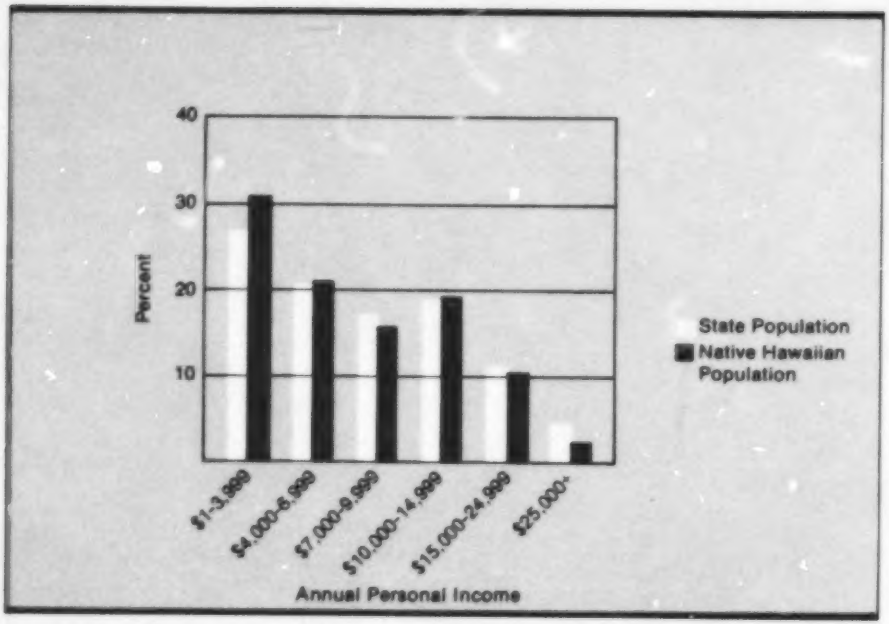
INDUSTRY
OF YOUTH AGE 19-25

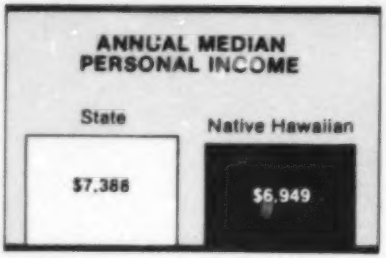
INCOME



POVERTY STATUS

Native Hawaiians have greater percentages in the below poverty level category as well as in the "near poor" categories. Data from the continuing Health Surveillance Program for 1974-76 show even greater percentages in these categories.





ANNUAL PERSONAL INCOME

Of those who have income, Native Hawaiians have a significantly higher percentage of their population in the low income levels than the rest of the State, and they have proportionately fewer people at the higher income levels. Almost one-third (31.2%) of Native Hawaiians receiving income get less than $4000 per year.

MEETING THE NEEDS

Impersonal though statistics may be, they are needed to give a picture of ourselves and how we compare with the total population in the State of Hawaii. Then plans can be made for the future to meet our needs as shown by the statistics.

ALU LIKE developed its long-range plan according to these needs. Under the overall goal, "To promote economic and social self-sufficiency for Native Hawaiians," efforts to meet the needs are as follows:

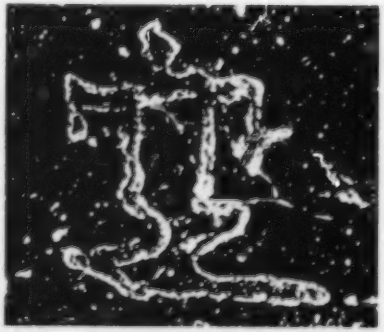
In 1976, ALU LIKE conducted a Needs Assessment Survey, launched a registry effort to identify Native Hawaiians, and planned an organizational structure.

In 1977, the implementation of the organizational structure enabled ALU LIKE staff to conduct community workshops for capacity-building, and to provide intake, referral and follow-up services in the Native Hawaiian community.

In 1978, ALU LIKE became prime sponsor for the Native American Employment and Training Program in Hawaii. While continuing to provide services, ALU LIKE concentrated on economic development to provide more economic opportunities for the Native Hawaiian community.

In the next few years, ALU LIKE's efforts will be to help Native Hawaiians achieve self-sufficiency through education, employment, and health programs, and providing training and technical assistance where needed.

Bella Bell, Staff Analyst



Let us work together, natives of Hawaii

"The Hawaiian race is a kindly and an affectionate one, hospitable and helpful to the other; a race grateful to those who have been good to them. Such were the ways of the old Hawaiians of old days. Now they are changed . . ."

Kepelino Keauokalani
Ka Wa Kahiko (The Days of Old)